



THE  
JEWISH  
GAILY

# FORWARD

AUGUST 1984

AV/ELUL 5744

## Marching On Market



Sha'ar Zahav proudly marching under our banner at the Gay & Lesbian Freedom Day Parade.

PHOTO BY JUDAH KATZ

## See You at the Fair

THE 11TH ANNUAL CASTRO STREET FAIR is set for Sunday, August 19 from 12:00 noon to 6:00 p.m., and once again Sha'ar Zahav will be participating. The Fair will take place on Castro Street from 17th to 19th and on Market Street from Noe to Castro. There will be information booths by community organizations, arts and crafts for sale, food booths, and musical entertainment.

Sha'ar Zahav will have a booth with general information about the congregation and T-shirts available as well. Volunteers are needed to help set up and take down the booth and to staff it during the day. If you can spare some time, please contact coordinators Jay Feinstein at 621-6594 or Richard Inlander at 821-4134.

The Castro Street Fair was started in 1974 by Harvey Milk to promote and draw attention to the community. Rather than simply a way to promote business for neighborhood merchants (as was traditional at other street fairs), he encouraged involvement by community and non-profit organizations and a more lively atmosphere with varied entertainment. It has since grown from a small affair attended by about 5,000 people to a major city event attended by thousands of men and women.

## Social Action Committee

### All Family Coalition

ON JULY 11 AND 12, Sha'ar Zahav, in the company of over 60 groups and numerous individuals dedicated to religious and social justice issues, participated in a non-violent, multi-cultural response to the presence of the Moral Majority's Family Forum III held in San Francisco.

On Wednesday evening, we joined with the All Family Coalition in a service at Grace Cathedral organized around the theme that we are all loving family. Leslie Bergson and Steve Greenberg worked with other members of the coalition in the planning of the service, and Steve read Psalm 34 that evening. At the culmination of the service, Don Albert, along with Ted Greenberg of Ahavat Shalom, electrified the cathedral with long shofar blasts from the highest balcony, which served as a call to leave the cathedral and march down Nob Hill to Union Square. It may also have been the first time that a shofar was heard in Grace Cathedral, not to mention so many kipot and tallesim being present.

On Thursday evening, Sha'ar Zahav maintained a vigil from 8 to 10 p.m. in front of the Holiday Inn-Union Square, where Jerry Falwell, Phyllis Schlafly, et al. were convening. Highlighting our vigil was the presence of our CSZ Ensemble, whose singing provided a beautiful statement to Forum participants and passers-by alike. Under a rather Gestapo-like police guard (due to the not entirely peaceful rally at nearby Union Square), many of us, under the national spotlight, risked our own safety to show the conveners the lies and stereotypes about gays and lesbians which they disseminate in the context of their religious beliefs.

I'm sure all of us who participated share my feelings of satisfaction in the statement we made that evening. I will always remember the woman wearing a *chai* necklace who literally almost fell off the curb when she realized we were gay and Jewish... or the well-dressed man who, after stopping to listen to our rendition of *Shalom Aleichem*, presented Joan with a rose... or the passing, clanging cable cars with cheers and waves from the passengers.

Thank you especially to all the singers who joined with me that evening: Joan Blazewick, Jon Funk, David Gellman, Judah Katz, Eric Keitel, Cheryl Orvis, Talia

(continued on page 3)



## President's Column

AS I WRITE THIS, Sha'ar Zahav is preparing to participate in an ecumenical service at Grace Cathedral as part of the All Family Coalition response to the hate and oppression characterized by the beliefs and actions of Phyllis Schlafly and Jerry Falwell and their Family Forum III. It is the intent of the All Family Coalition to present peaceful, reasonable and caring alternatives to the intolerance spewed by Family Forum III, and to put the lie to their spurious claims by presenting the reality of what we are. It is for these reasons that Sha'ar Zahav has proudly chosen to support, with dollars and personpower, the activities of the All Family Coalition. This is an opportunity to put our dearest held principles into action. We can be most proud of the work of the All Family Coalition, The Parsonage that spearheaded it, all the other responsible organizations that support it, and our own activities within it. I hope and trust that many of you that read this will have personally taken part in one or more of the several-days events.

On Sunday, July 15th, Sha'ar Zahavniks and friends will gather beneath our banner in the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights. This event, sponsored by responsible gay/lesbian organizations nationwide, including Sha'ar

---

*The Jewish Gaily Forward* is published 12 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive the *Forward*. For a donation of \$10/year, nonmembers will receive the *Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due on the 10th of the month. It should be sent to the Synagogue office, marked to the attention of the *Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Alex Ingersoll, Bob Goldware, Irene Ogus, Marilyn O'Keeffe and Leila Raim (editorial and production), Bert Benderoff, Allan Berenstein, Frank Hyman, Barry Siegel, Sam Thal and Alita Rosenfeld (distribution). The *Forward* is typeset by Cole Valley Graphics and printed by Lou Greene.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with a frequency discount of 10% for six or more issues. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads (for members only)** are \$5.00 for up to 20 words, plus \$1.00 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. The *Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the Synagogue Office at 861-6932.

Zahav, will march from the Castro to Moscone Center to show the Democrats at their National Convention, our strength, our serious and responsible intent, and our dedication to civil justice.

I am proud that our Congregation has the opportunity to participate in these vitally important activities. I am proud that we are strong and dedicated to acting on our principles of good and truth. Throughout the history of our people, Jews around the world have borne the burden of bearing witness to the highest goals, aspirations and concerns of humanity. We have been in the forefront of every battle for openness in society, conscience in action and honor in our dealings with all the inhabitants of our small and precious planet. It is in keeping with this 5,000 year tradition that we dedicate our energy to the All Family Coalition and the National March for Lesbian/Gay Rights. May the day soon come when we know an "end to the hate and oppression that we have known for so long." Amen!

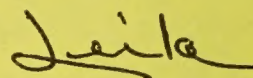
Within our Sha'ar Zahav family, there is currently much interesting activity. The planning has begun for our booth at the Castro Street Fair. My thanks to Jay Feinstein and Richard Inlander for accepting the responsibility of coordinating our activities at the Fair. Help is needed... volunteer to join the fun! Plans have begun with our gifted Ritual Committee for High Holiday Services. doubtless this year we will again be proud beyond words! Thank you, Frank Hyman for agreeing to coordinate this most important aspect of our ritual calendar. Frank will be putting together a committee to make it all come together smoothly. Want to be part of making it happen? Just let us know! A call to the office is all it takes!

Plans for the annual Advance are in their final stages — and aren't I glad, with only a couple of weeks to go. The more we plan the better it sounds, and I really believe you will catch the excitement when you read the Advance Report in the September issue of the *Forward*.

Don't forget to read the Va'ad report each month to keep yourself advised of matters of interest and importance. Let me hear from you, or please attend meetings to express your point of view on pending matters.

After having been President for almost two weeks, I can say with absolute certainty... I need your help. We are Sha'ar Zahav; all of us together can make it all happen.

— Shalom,



### Remember

to keep us up to date. If you've moved, changed your name, have a new phone number, or wish to add a listing to our *yahrzeit* or anniversary records, please call or write the synagogue office.



## Installation of Officers

**O**N FRIDAY EVENING, JUNE 29, Sha'ar Zahav's leadership for July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985 was installed in a brief ceremony during Shabbat services. In a symbolic gesture, the Torah was passed from Past-Presidents Paul Cohen and Cheryl Orvis to Outgoing President Mike Rankin, who in turn passed the Torah on to President-elect Leila Raim with some encouraging welcoming remarks. Leila was then joined on the *bima* by Vice President Don Albert, Treasurer David Stein and Recorder Mark Mendelow. Finally, the officers were joined by attending members of the 1984-85 Va'ad comprised of: Allan Berenstein, Leslie Bergson, Alex Ingersoll, Garry Koenigsberg, Ron Lezell, Nancy Meyer, Cheryl Orvis, Jerry Rosenstein and Sharyn Saslafsky.

The collective new leadership then joined together in reading the following statement of purpose, which had been prepared by Leila to start off the new year.

*We perceive a congregation numerous and strong, enjoying life, freedom and happiness; deeply rooted in the rich soil of Judaism; fully committed to our rights as gay men and lesbians; true to our traditions; faithful to our aspirations; one in sentiment with our siblings wherever they may be.*

*We seek true life, not just breathing space.*

*We seek true freedom, not simply license.*

*We strive for happiness, as we participate in the spiritual, social and civil life of our community.*

*Looking forward, we view our diversity as essential to our richness of mind and spirit. Not a mass of individuals, but a universe of individualities.*

*We are a community, a congregation, a family that grows in size, strength and influence. A force for joy, for good and for justice. Trusted for our loyalty, respected for our dignity, esteemed for our traditions and valued for our aspirations.*

*We are Sha'ar Zahav.*

## All Family Coalition *(continued from page 1)*

Shafir, Elliott Toporek and Dana Vinicoff. Special thanks also to Beth who, along with assisting the organizers of the two-day protest, also provided candles for those holding vigil and a beautiful flower arrangement for the Ensemble.

## Vigil for Soviet Jewry

Sha'ar Zahav is continuing to work with the Bay Area Council on Soviet Jewry to maintain a protest vigil in front of the Soviet Consulate at Green and Baker. Our time slot is the second Wednesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to noon. Placards are provided. The dates for the next two months are:

Wednesday, August 8, 11:30 a.m. to noon

Wednesday, September 12, 11:30 a.m. to noon

Please contact me 647-4050 for any further information.

— Ron Lezell, Chair  
Social Action Committee

## High Holy Days — 5745

**A**S THE SOUND OF THE SHOFAR calls Jews around the world to mark the beginning of the New Year, 5745, a unique yet established event will be repeated in the Bay Area: Our Congregation will gather for the 8th consecutive year to celebrate and worship together on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. In keeping with tradition, there will be no ticket charge for members nor for the general public. Services will be led by the Ritual Committee, and we will be using Sha'ar Zahav's own Machzors for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur.

All services will be held at the Unitarian Center, Main Sanctuary, Franklin and Geary Streets, San Francisco. The schedule for services is as follows:

### Rosh Hashanah

- Wednesday, September 27, 7:30 p.m. — Evening Services
- Thursday, September 27, 10:00 a.m. — Shacharit and Musaf Services

### Yom Kippur

- Friday, October 5, 7:30 p.m. — Kol Nidre Service
- Saturday, October 6, 10:00 a.m. — Shacharit and Musaf Services
- Saturday, October 6, 6:00 p.m. — Yizkor and Ne'ilah Services

The Unitarian Center is wheelchair accessible, and sign language interpretation will be available.

We look forward to a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year, and we hope that all of our members and friends will join us for these services. We also urge members to complete the High Holiday Services participation form printed elsewhere in this issue so as to make these services a richer experience for us all.

Frank Hyman is currently pulling together a team to ensure that the physical aspects of the services run smoothly, not to mention the task of moving materials from our synagogue to the Unitarian Center and back and organizing Onegs and Break-the-fasts for close to 1,000 worshippers. Please contact Frank at 431-9479 if you would like to assist.

### ATTORNEY

**DAVID R. GELLMAN**  
(415) 621-2966

- Contracts & Leases
- Estate Planning & Wills
- Real Estate
- Business Law & Litigation

45 Franklin St., San Francisco 94102

Reasonable Fees

Weekend & Evening  
Appointments



## High Holiday Services Participation

The Congregation would once again like to provide an opportunity for all members to participate in High Holiday services. We will be assigning readings in English and Hebrew, and ceremonial functions at the various services. Only those members who return this form to us by Monday, August 27 can be assured an opportunity to participate.

---

---

Please return this form to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114 by Monday, August 27.

Name of Member \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to participate at:

### Rosh Hashanah

- ☐ Wednesday evening, September 26
- ☐ Thursday morning (Shacharit), September 27
- ☐ Thursday late morning (Musaf), September 27

### Yom Kippur

- ☐ Friday evening (Kol Nidre), October 5
- ☐ Saturday morning (Shacharit), October 6
- ☐ Saturday late morning (Musaf), October 6
- ☐ Saturday late afternoon (Yizkor), October 6
- ☐ Saturday late afternoon (Neilah), October 6

☐ Any service

☐ I can read Hebrew well

☐ I would like to learn a chant

---

---

## Help Keep History Alive

The Holocaust Media Project is seeking to record the lives of Holocaust survivors from the Bay Area. Survivors or other individuals with first-hand experience of the Holocaust period — camp liberators, resistance fighters, partisans or witnesses — are invited to take part in this timely endeavor. Volunteers will be interviewed and their stories will be included in a permanent collection of oral history archived at The Holocaust Library and Research Center of San Francisco. The Project has informed us that that they are especially interested in interviewing gay survivors. Several members of the Project are gay or gay sensitive and discretion and confidentiality are assured.

If you are interested in participating in this project, please contact the Holocaust Media Project at 751-6040 or write to them at 639 14th Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118. Sharing your story means sharing it with future generations and helping to preserve vital history.

## Va'ad Report

**T**HE FIRST MEETING of the newly-elected officers and the Va'ad was held on July 9 at the synagogue. In her first report to the Va'ad, Leila announced the new Executive Committee will be composed of the officers and Cheryl Orvis. Leila was also pleased to announce that Richard Inlander and Jay Feinstein will coordinate the Congregation's involvement at the Castro Street Fair, and Frank Hyman will serve as our High Holy Day coordinator. Leila also announced that a piano has been donated for the sanctuary by Russell Kassman. On a sadder note, Leila informed the Va'ad that Nancy Meyer has resigned her seat on the Va'ad. Her dedicated work on the Va'ad has been very much appreciated, and she will most definitely be missed.

David Stein presented the year-end financial statement in his Treasurer's report and was pleased to announce that we are finishing this past fiscal year in the black! Rob Tat reviewed the preliminary plans for this year's Advance which will be held the weekend of July 27-29. In his report for the Building Committee, David Gellman reviewed the most recent renovations completed at the Synagogue and discussed what the Building committee will be doing about the recent burglary of the Sanctuary, which left us minus our sound system and Torah crowns.

The Va'ad reviewed our participation in Gay Freedom Day and acknowledged the hard work of the many people who were involved in making the day a success. Special mention was made of the contributions of Allyce Kimerling and Elliott Toporek, who were the booth coordinators, and of Stevie Greenberg, Sha'ar Zahav's own Lawrence Welk.

The Va'ad voted to establish two new restricted funds — a Torah Fund and a Library Fund. The former will be for the purchase of a "Torah of our own" and the latter will be for the acquisition of books for the proposed synagogue library. Steve Greenberg reported on the Ritual Committee's plans for the High Holy Days, and Cheryl Orvis reported on the progress of the Rabbi Search committee. One new member was voted in this month by the Va'ad, and Allan Berenstein informed the Va'ad that the Membership Committee has asked him to continue on as their committee's chair. Oy!

Ron Lezell reviewed the plans for the Congregation's involvement in the All Family Coalition's events preceding the Democratic Convention, and Don Albert announced that David Gass will be re-convening the By-Laws Committee in anticipation of the November Congregational Meeting. Sharyn Saslafsky announced that Sha'ar Zahav will be listed in the new directory being published by the G.G.B.A.

Issues to be voted on at the upcoming Va'ad meeting on August 13 include (1) a Kashrut policy and (2) how to best deal with obsolete restricted funds. Please remember that all members of the Congregation are invited to attend Va'ad meetings and/or to give their feedback to any officer or member of the Va'ad regarding any issues facing the Va'ad.

— Until we meet again,  
Mark Mendelow, Recorder



## The Lesbian & Gay Freedom Day Parade

### CSZ Hits Market St.



Shots of our parade contingent and booth on June 24. All photos by Alex Ingersoll, Judah Katz and David Stein.



Among the proud contingents marching up Market Street on June 24 in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade was a record contingent from Sha'ar Zahav. At various points in the long parade route, some 75 members and friends fell in behind our distinctive banner. Led in continuous song by Camp Counselor Steve Greenberg, we all exuded that pride that makes our Congregation so strong. We were also heartened tremendously along the route by the enthusiastic reception we were given by each block of onlookers.

At Civic Center, the Sha'ar Zahav booth was located this year at the head of the parade route and our knish crew worked feverishly to keep up with the demand — and also to answer the endless questions of "What's a knish?" or "What's kasha?"

For organizing such a successful booth and parade contingent, our thanks go to Allyce Kimerling and her committee: Joan Blazewick, Ilene Hirsch, George Lucas and Elliott Toporek. Assisting along the parade route as monitors were David McMinn, Andrea Piazza, Jerry Sacks and Clarissa. Back at the booth, we all owe thanks to the following persons for setup, staffing, striking the booth, and various other tasks: Diane Buchbinder, Steve Elman, Joyce Garay, Allan Gold, Alex Ingersoll, Mark Mendelow, Jerry Rosenstein, Tom Rothgiesser and David Stein.

As for next year, there have already been murmurings of having a float — whether or not this means 10,000,000 blue and white carnations is not clear at this point, but it's not too early to start thinking about joining next year's parade committee.





## Thank You All!

On June 29, the last Shabbat of his presidency, Mike Rankin thanked those who had worked on committees or projects for the Congregation during the past year. Most volunteer organizations are fortunate if 5% of the membership is actively involved in the work of the group. At Sha'ar Zahav, the number was a phenomenal 40%! Those who received the thanks of the Congregation on the 29th were:

Peter Abinanti	Ilene Hirsch	Leila Raim
Don Albert	Frank Hyman	Arthur Reichstadt
Bill Ashley-Dobbin	Alex Ingersoll	Jill Rose
Michael Barclay	Betty Kalis	Stephen Rosenbaum
Harvey Bartnof	Judah Katz	Alita Rosenfeld
Al Baum, Jr.	Eric Keitel	Gerald Rosenstein
Bart Benderoff	Allyce Kimerling	Terry Rothchild
Allan Berenstein	Mel Kirsch	Tom Rothgeisser
Leslie Bergson	Elliot Klein	Sharyn Saslafsky
Joan Blazewick	Garry Koenigsberg	Yolande Schneeman
Leonard Brill	Jordan Lee	Alan Schrager
Larry Chandler	Walt Leiss	David Shaber
Daniel Chesir	Robert Levy	Talia Shafir
Michael Chriesman	Ronald Lezell	Barry Siegel
Larry Cohen	Shirley Liberman	Sharon Silverstein
Paul Cohen	Debbie Lieberman	Daniel Sonnenfeld
Aaron Cooper	Marc Lipschutz	Shelley Spiro
Steve Cronenwalt	Michael Lipson	David Stein
Steven Elman	Alan Lubliner	Nanci Stern
Jonathan Funk	George Lucas	Robert Tat
David Gass	Moishe Ha Harim	Sam Thal
Ronald Gelb	Robert Mackey	Elliott Toporek
David Gellman	Rabbi Ben Marcus	Dana Vinicoff
Allan Gold	Mark Mendelow	Stephen Walters
Robert Goldware	Nancy Meyer	Wendy Weiss
Donald Gordon	Ronald Moskowitz	Ronald Wolberg
Steven Greenberg	Irene Ogus	Joanne Woolf
Susan Greenspan	Cheryl Orvis	Mike Zimmerman
Jonathan G.	James Proctor	

To all of you — thank you for making the year, and the Congregation, so special! Anyone who missed their gift on the 29th should see Mike at an Oneg to receive thanks in person.

## The Ram's Horn Needs You

Any member or friend of the Congregation who wishes to learn to blow the Shofar for the High Holidays is invited to leave her/his name and phone number with the office. Leila will contact you to arrange lessons and practice sessions beginning in late August. It is not necessary that you be musical or that you have your own shofar. A little *chutzpa* and a lot of wind are all that is required.

## September Events

**Monday, September 10** — Va'ad Meeting

**Wednesday, September 12** — Vigil for Soviet Jewry

**Sunday, September 16** — Softball Game/Picnic

**Wednesday, September 27** — Rosh Hashanah Service, 7:30 pm.

**Thursday, September 28** — Rosh Hashanah Services, 10 am.

## Shabbat Morning Services

**A**S PART OF OUR DEDICATION WEEKEND IN MAY, the Ritual Committee held a Shabbat Morning Service, which inaugurated Sha'ar Zahav's newly published Saturday morning prayerbook. In June, the Committee began conducting Shabbat morning services on a monthly basis, in addition to our regular Friday night services. Because the congregational response has been so favorable in the first two months, the Ritual Committee plans to conduct such services on a continuing basis on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m. in our synagogue. Please join us for the August service on Saturday, August 25; which will be led by Mike Rankin.

## Ritual Calendar — August

Friday, August 3	<b>Shabbat Hazon</b> <b>Parshah:</b> D'varim, Deut. 1:1-3:22 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 1:1-27 Jon Funk, Services
Monday, August 6	<b>Tisha B'Av Service, 7:30 p.m.</b> Selections from Lamentations Daniel Chesir & Leslie Bergson, Services
Friday, August 10	<b>Shabbat Nachmu</b> <b>Parshah:</b> Va-Etchanan, Deut. 3:23-7:11 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 40:1-26 Steve Greenberg & Cheryl Orvis, Services <b>Tisha B'Av</b> will also be observed at this service.
Friday, August 17	<b>Parshah:</b> Ekev, Deut. 7:12-11:25 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 49:1-51:3 Leslie Bergson, Services The Torah will be read.
Friday, August 24	<b>Parshah:</b> R'ei, Deut. 11:26-16:17 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 54:11-55:5 Paul Cohen, Services
Saturday, August 25	<b>Shabbat Morning Service, 10:30 a.m.</b> Mike Rankin, Services
Friday, August 31	<b>Parshah:</b> Shoftim, Deut. 16:18-21:9 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 51: 12-52:12 Steve Elman, Services

## September Ritual Preview

Friday, September 7	<b>Parshah:</b> Ki Tetze, Deut. 21:10-25:19 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 52:1-10 Eric Keitel, Services
Friday, September 14	<b>Parshah:</b> Ki Tavo, Deut. 26:1-29:8 <b>Haftarah:</b> Isaiah 60:1-22 Daniel Chesir & Terry Rothchild, Services

Services are held every Friday night at 8:15 at our synagogue, located at 220 Danvers at Caselli in San Francisco.



1984

AUGUST

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			3 Av 1	4 2	5 3	6 4
7 5	8 6 Finance Comm. 5:15pm 111 Caselli Tisha B'Av Service 7:30pm	9 7 Fast of Av	10 8 Vigil for Soviet Jewry, Green & Baker, 11:00am	11 9 Building Comm. 6:30 2nd floor Social Action 7pm, Ron, 647-4050	12 10 Newsletter Deadline	13 11
14 12 Brotherhood Swim, noon Jerry, 648-8883	15 13 Va'ad Meeting 6:30pm	16 14 Newsletter Comm. Alex, 648-4818	17 15	18 16	19 17 Reflections Before Shabbat 7:30pm	20 18
21 19 Castro Street Fair	22 20	23 21	24 22	25 23	26 24	27 25 Shabbat Morning Service 10:30am
28 26	29 27 High Holiday Forms Due	30 28 Rosh Chodesh I East Bay Lunch Group — Lenny at 451-1850	1 Elul 29 Rosh Chodesh II	2 30 Ritual Co. 6:30pm 631 O'Farrell, Fl.2 Newsletter Mailing Alex, 648-4818	3 31	

## Get Into the Swim

**T**HE CSZ BROTHERHOOD will be holding a swim party and get-together for all men on Sunday, August 12, from noon to 6 p.m. at Max's home in Danville. A grill will be available, and a keg of beer and iced drinks will be provided by the Steering Committee.

So bring a towel, along with something to grill and some food to share in an all afternoon nosh. First half of the alphabet bring munchies and desserts; last half of the alphabet bring a hot or cold dish (and serving utensils).

Maps to Max's will be available at Friday night services, or call Jerry Sacks at 648-8883 for information. If you are driving, please offer to give rides. If you will be BARTing, try to arrive at the Walnut Creek Station between noon and 1 p.m. Give the house a call at 837-5279, and you'll be picked up. See you on the 12th.

## Reflections Before Shabbat

The Education Committee's program of Reflections Before Shabbat will continue in August. Scheduled for the third Shabbat of every month, Reflections provide a changing 30-minute program to help everyone get into the mood for Shabbat. Join us on August 17 at 7:30 p.m. for this month's program.

## 3rd Annual Softball Game

Oil your ball gloves, dust off those pom-poms, go out and see *The Natural* — and get ready for the Sha'ar Zahav sporting event of the season! No experience in softball or cheerleading is necessary.

Sunday, September 16  
Julius Kahn Playground  
San Francisco Presidio  
11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Of course, it's a picnic also, with grill provided. Mark your calendars now; more details will follow in the September *Forward*.

But first: What do Sha'ar Zahav softball players and Michael Jackson have in common?

They both wear a glove on one hand for no apparent reason.

### Pen Pals Please

Young gay Jewish man with interest in music and theatre desires correspondence with gay/lesbian Jews in America. Write: Peter Sweet, 32 Ewe Close Market Estate, Holloway, London N7 RTE, England



# So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

When I went to your synagogue recently, I saw women walking around wearing kipot and tallitot. Don't any of your men know enough to tell them to stop? Kipot and tallitot are for men only. Please correct this situation at once.

Proper on Potrero

Dear Proper,

At Sha'ar Zahav, we are always pleased to learn more about our heritage, but here I think you left a few things out. Not only "shouldn't" women wear yarmulkes and *talleisim*, they also "shouldn't" participate in the service, be called to the Torah, or sit in a part of the synagogue where they can be seen by men. (In fact, it's even rumored that some people say that they shouldn't sleep with each other, although this seems a little far fetched.)

Aunt Yente is very pleased to let you keep all the "shouldn'ts" you want in your religion. She, personally, prefers the Torah. For example, the Bible says that all the children of Israel should wear fringes on the corners of their garments. *Nu*, styles have changed since then, and our clothing no longer has corners (although we make up for this by having permanent press). So, we wear a special robe with corners on it called a *tallis*, so we can put fringes on it and obey this commandment. But unless Aunt Yente missed something, the fringes hang from the garment, not from parts of the body. Why should the anatomy of the person using the *tallis* have anything to do with the need to fulfill the mitzvah?

As for yarmulkes, the tradition goes back to a rabbi described in the Talmud, who was so devout that he would not walk abroad with his head uncovered, out of respect for God. From this, Jews developed a custom of wearing

hats or yarmulkes to cover our heads either all the time, or when we pray, eat, and do other holy things. So unless women respect God less than men do, they should also wear yarmulkes, no?

The tradition that only men should wear yarmulkes or *talleisim* developed primarily from the concept that women — out of what they kept telling us was our generally lower intelligence and importance — should concern ourselves with cooking and childbearing, and leave the finer points of religious observance to the men. In Yiddish, we call this "sexist bulldreck". Normally, it just amuses your Aunt Yente; but if you push it too far, Aunt Yente may just forget she is a lady.

Aunt Yente is maybe being a little harsh. She has to admit that when *she* first came to Sha'ar Zahav, she too was disturbed to see women doing things that she had been taught were only for men. *But*, when she came to understand why women were discouraged from keeping these commandments, and when she became more used to seeing women observe them (and when she noticed how fetching a certain raven-haired *maidle* looked in her *tallis* and *kippa*), her mind was changed. Now, when she goes to a *shul* where the women are not wearing yarmulkes, she simply assumes that they're all wearing *sheitles*.

Aunt Yente

P.S. You want to know what is a *sheitle*? So write your Aunt Yente a letter!

Aunt Yente will answer all your questions about Jewish law and ritual matters. Just write to Aunt Yente in care of the *Forward*, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114. Only a limited number of questions can be answered in the *Forward*, so if you want a personal answer, please include a stamped self-addressed envelope. All material © 1984 Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

## Jewish Calendar 5745

Copies of *The Jewish Calendar 5745* are now available through the office. This engagement calendar was compiled by Richard Siegel and Michael Stassfeld, editors of *The Jewish Catalog*, and features extensive illustrations, unusual facts about Jewish history and religion, birthdays and *yahrzeits* of many famous people, candle-lighting times and other useful information about holidays and festivals, fasts and feasts. To order your copy, return the enclosed form along with a check for \$6.50 for each copy, or call the office at 861-6932.

Please reserve \_\_\_\_\_ copies of *The Jewish Calendar 5745* for me at \$6.50 per copy. I enclose a check for \$\_\_\_\_\_.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and mail to CSZ, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114.

## Oneg Sponsors

During the month of June, Friday night Onegs were sponsored by the following generous persons:

- June 1 — Sharyn Saslafsky, in memory of Mark Feldman.
- June 8 — The Va'ad, in honor of the Congregation.
- June 15 — Shirley Liberman and Noble Pies, in honor of the Congregation.
- June 22 — David Shaber, in memory of his father, Eli Shaber.
- June 29 — Elliott Toporek and an anonymous member of CSZ, in honor of both the outgoing and incoming Va'ad and officers.

All you have to do to sponsor an Oneg is to think of the occasion and contact Peter Abinanti (441-0276) or Elliott Toporek (4741605), see one of them at an Oneg or leave a message at the Synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an Oneg is \$30-40 (partial sponsorship available) or you can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.



## New Members

The Membership Committee is pleased to announce that our Congregation gained another new member in July. A warm welcome to:

Max Zaslawsky

New members are welcomed and honored at Friday night services on the last Friday of the month. By making them feel a part of our family, we can all help to show our new members that they have a valuable place at Sha'ar Zahav.

## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past month by the following contributors:

*For the General Fund —*

**Don Albert**, in memory of Steven Konigsberg

**Rabbi Robert Kirschner**, in honor of Mike Rankin

**Alex Ingersoll**, in honor of Allyce Kimerling's generous spirit

**Bob Goldware**, in honor of Jay Feinstein's birthday

**Friends of CSZ**, in honor of Allyce Kimerling and the other members of committee for our participation in the Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade

**Steve Elman**, in honor of Daniel Chesir's birthday

**David Stein & Alex Ingersoll**, in honor of Steve Greenberg, our songleader

**Leila Raim**, in memory of Ellyn Bloomfield's father

**Estate of Duff B. Kreitzberg**

**Frank Hyman**, in memory of Robert E. Harvey, Jr.

**Anonymous**, in honor of CSZ's work in saving the Falashas and Gay & Lesbian Soviet Jews

**Anonymous**, in memory of Mr. Hammer and Marc Pearlman

*In Memory of Duff Kreitzberg —*

**Ron Lezell & Judah Katz**

**Allan Berenstein**

**David Stein & Alex Ingersoll**

**Rob Tat**

**Seth Shapiro**

**Susan & Stan Bloomfield**

**Ruth, William & Alana Perkins**

**Don Albert**

**Steven Elman**

**Model Management**

**Leila Raim & Catherine Wisniewski**

*For the Building Fund (general) —*

**Steve Elman**, in honor of Mark Resnick receiving his Ph.D.

*For the Prayerbook Fund —*

**Allan Berenstein**, on the occasion of Mark Resnick receiving his Ph.D.

**Steven Elman**, in honor of Aunt Yente

## Rabbi Search Report

Following careful deliberations, the Rabbi Search Committee decided last month that the two candidates recently interviewed did not sufficiently meet the Congregation's needs. The Committee's decision was based on approximately five hours of formal interviews with each candidate, plus informal contact and feedback from congregants and Va'ad members who spoke with the candidates during the weekends they were each in San Francisco.

Having no additional active candidates, the Committee will continue to receive applications and probably announce the position in another nationwide media campaign later this year.

Our "position available" notice has run monthly in the bulletin of the Central Conference of American Rabbis (CCAR) since January, 1983. The CCAR is the organization of Reform rabbis, and the primary source for all Reform rabbinic job opportunities. The Rabbi Search Committee additionally conducted a media campaign in both the gay and Jewish press in the hope of reaching rabbis who, for whatever reason, may not read the CCAR bulletin. Some 50% of the 19 resumes received this year were responses to this media campaign.

**Gay? Lesbian?**

**Jewish?**

**Not a member of Sha'ar Zahav?**

**A  
SCHANDE!**

To receive a membership application, simply request one by phoning the Sha'ar Zahav office at 861-6932, write to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, CA 94114, or pick up at services, every Friday night at 8:15.

## Congrats to Lana/BCC

We have just received word that Lana Soroko of Beth Chayim Chadashim in LA has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Jewish Federation Council Metropolitan Region of Greater Los Angeles. Lana had been Jewish Community Liaison Chair of BCC and was instrumental in publicizing and advancing the position of BCC in the LA Jewish Community. Reports are that the position was opened up by the nominating committee specifically with Lana, as a BCC member, in mind. She will be the first openly gay/lesbian person to serve on the Federation Council's Board. *Mazel tov* to both Lana Soroko and BCC.



## August Birthdays!

2	Joel Roman	16	Lee Vogel
3	Barry Miguel	19	Paul Cohen
4	Jonathan Funk	23	Frank Hyman
7	John Golebowski	23	Michael Lipson
9	Allan Gold	30	Robyn Meltzer
14	Carole Migden	30	Shelley Spiro
16	Chaya Spector		

**Belated Birthday wishes to:**  
Cheryl Orvis (July 28)

## August Yahrzeits

- 1 Margaret Buddell, Grandmother of Abigail Abbuehl
- 1 Sadie Katz Built, Great-aunt of Judah Katz
- 4 Madelyn Gross Walters, Mother of Stephen Walters
- 7 (9 Av) Sadie Radetsky, Grandmother of Allan Berenstein
- 10 Celia Katz, Grandmother of Judah Katz
- 11 (13 Av) Mary Brown, Grandmother of Melvin Kirsch
- 14 (16 Av) Louis Wouk, Grandfather of Nina Wouk
- 16 Frank Abts, Father of Michael Abts
- 20 Moe Harris, Grandfather of Norman Burns
- 20 Arthur H. Klein, Father of Elliott Klein
- 24 Bella Corenzwit, Grandmother of Larry Klein
- 26 Anne Kurtz, Friend of Chaya Spector

*Note:* Yahrzeits will be read at services on the Friday preceding the Yahrzeit date.

## A Home of Our Own — the Video

Orders are still being accepted for the videotape of the May 20 dedication of "A Home of Our Own." The tape runs approximately one hour and covers the entire dedication ceremony, including the speeches and the singing, the torah procession and candid shots of the reception. Copies are available in both VHS and Beta formats at a cost of \$35 plus \$2.50 postage and handling. Pick up an order form at Friday night services or call the office (861-6932) for ordering information. Any sibling congregations who would like to show the tape should also contact the CSZ office to make arrangements.

## Classified Ads

**LOSE WEIGHT NOW, ASK ME HOW.** Maintain weight or gain weight. Be energetic, look younger, feel better than ever. Transform your life. Be dynamic and positive. Peter, 441-0276.

**POSITION AVAILABLE:** For a special person who would like to coordinate distribution of classy newsletter for popular gay/lesbian synagogue. Work with an established, able staff, 1-2 nights a month. On-the-job training available. For more info, call Alex Ingersoll (648-4818) or Bob Goldware (928-3370).

## Jewish Bulletin

You all know that the *Forward* is THE source of information for what's going on in the Congregation. How many of you are familiar with the Northern California *Jewish Bulletin* which is a major source of information for what's happening in the rest of the Bay Area Jewish Community? The *Bulletin* is published weekly, and subscriptions are available at \$15/year by writing to NCJB, 121 Steuart Street, #302, San Francisco, CA 94105. In addition to the articles and a calendar which will be of interest to our members, the *Bulletin's* advertising is especially valuable to newcomers to the Bay Area who are not familiar with the Jewish businesses and other Jewish resources in the area. Also, in recent months, the *Bulletin* has also been giving Sha'ar Zahav and gay and lesbian Jews substantial coverage.



**CONGREGATION SHA'AR ZAHAV**  
220 Danvers at Caselli  
San Francisco, California 94114  
(415) 861-6932

**Officers:** President, Leila Raim; Vice President, Don Albert; Treasurer, David Stein; Recorder, Mark Mendelow

**Va'ad (Board) Members:** Allan Berenstein, Leslie Bergson, Alex Ingersoll, Garry Koenigsberg, Ron Lezell, Cheryl Orvis, Jerry Rosenstein, Sharyn Saslafsky

**Committee Chairs:** Bikur Cholim, Rabbi Ben Marcus; Building, David Gellman; Bylaws, David Gass; Education, by committee; Finance, Tom Rothgiesser; Membership, Allan Berenstein; Newsletter, Alex Ingersoll; Oneg, Peter Abinanti and Elliott Toporek; Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky; Rabbi Search, Aaron Cooper; Ritual, Leslie Bergson; Social Action, Ron Lezell; Women's Chavurah, by committee.

**Office Manager:** Susan Greenspan (Office is open Wednesday and Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. At other times, please leave a phone message.) **Emergency Number:** At other times the Congregation can be contacted in an emergency situation by calling 864-0475 between 7:00 a.m. and 11:00 p.m.